

INTERVIEWS METHODS OF ALLIES

Red Book Issued by Austro-Hungarian Ministry Condemns Warfare of Enemies.

DECLARES PRISONERS ARE
BARBAROUSLY TREATED

Publication, Called Collection of Evidence, Alleges Many Flagrant Breaches of International Law.

Austria-Hungary's indictment of the methods of warfare of her enemies, giving scores of instances of "barbarous treatment" of nationals and prisoners and breaches of international law, was made public today in a "Red Book" issued by the Austro-Hungarian ministry of foreign affairs through its embassy here.

The publication is called a "Collection of Evidence," and is divided into four parts. The first two parts, says a prefatory note introducing numerous depositions and affidavits, "contain evidence concerning the treatment of Austro-Hungarian diplomatic and consular officers by the government officers of the hostile countries. The cases adduced deal with the violations of the most elementary rules of the right of hospitality, a right consecrated since the remotest antiquity and respected even by the uncivilized nations of Africa. Never before have so many cases of the violations of this right been indicated. In several cases the illegal expulsion or arrest has preceded the actual state of war, a fact which still further aggravates the offense beyond description. From Brussels we are preceded by the garde civique on the station platform. . . . My poor wife was hurried on with the butt and the guard's rifle. As she took no heed of this she was struck across both legs with a rifle and was injured. . . . A child, nine years, was so frightened that it refused to follow the others and clung with both hands to the railings at the exit; a garde civique hit it with his sabre and cut its left hand off."

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denoted agitation of a press which disseminates lies and fosters hatred. Most of the excesses to which thousands of innocent and defenseless people have fallen victims are the direct outcome of that agitation.

"The collection of evidence, as now published for general information, cannot convey even a faint idea of the decay which the notions of international law have undergone, and which, in the course of a few months, have destroyed many a hope. It may, however, furnish some facts for the reflection of those whose judgment has remained unimpaired by the passions of the day, and of the sense of morality in a war brought on by our enemies for the purpose of crushing nations engaged in the peaceful pursuit of the blessing of civilization, and as to who has the right to claim that he is fighting this bloody, contested struggle for the sake of liberty and humanity.

Witnesses' Names Withheld.

"The Austro-Hungarian ministry of foreign affairs has received, since the printing of this collection was completed, a number of further reports of violations of international law, and among them the reports of the consular officials recently released from Russia. These and similar revelations which may come to hand at a future date will be published in the form of supplements to the present collection.

The names of a number of witnesses have been withheld at their own special request; they have reasons to fear that the publication of their names would tend as long as the passions aroused by the war last, to subject them to reprisals and thus endanger either their interests or those of other persons in hostile countries. The identity of all the witnesses has, however, been carefully established by responsible government officials; the names which have, for the time being, been suppressed will be liable to entail harm to them or other sufferers by the war."

A "typical example" of the treatment of Austrians in Belgium is described in a letter from an Austrian merchant in the perfumery business who has lived for fifteen years in Paris and was forced to leave within twenty-four hours.

Child's Hand Struck Off.

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en and children in the concentration camps. A deposition of Miss M. E. Schreiner, a Kratonian nurse, pictures conditions in a convent at Garrison to which Austrians, Hungarians and Germans were ordered after a march of twenty kilometers. Here they were informed that they were prisoners of war.

There were altogether about 1,000 prisoners," declared Miss Schreiner, "half of whom were women and children. There was no furniture available and straw was the sole bedding. Under the pretext of safety, the ex-latin prisoners were hooded up and holes in the ground were dug by the male prisoners in lieu of other arrangements. Two women were confined and had to put up with the most atrocious treatment. Four people died."

Other cases cited included the "miserable punishment, rough medical attention, and the starvation of the 'shameless molestation of interned girls by French soldiers' at Sables d'Olonne."

Frightful Treatment of Girls.

"The young girls," according to one of the depositions, "were exposed to criminal assaults by the soldiers. In the beginning they were herded together with the young men and had to share their rooms or stables with them. Modesty forbids specification of all the acts of indecency to which we had to submit, worst of all offenders was the commissioner of police, Matern, who unmercifully maltreated all those who opposed his immoral designs."

The royal Hungarian ministry of the interior obtained January 11, 1915, a report of "the murder of interned Hungarians at Argenton-sur-Creuse, Angers, Brest, St. Pierre, La Courneuve, Garçon and Orville."

In Great Britain insufficient food and accommodations, it is claimed, were the cause of the deaths of many of the prisoners. Col. Haines (presumably in charge of the detention camp), said in a letter from Baron Glasko to Count Berchtold, "would have been quite willing to do something for the prisoners, but his humanitarian impulses were checked by Lord Kitchener."

Similar complaints are made of treatment of prisoners at Dorchester and the Douglas concentration camp on the Isle of Man.

Barbarous Treatment of Interned.

In Russia, the intelligence department of the Austro-Hungarian general staff learned of "barbarous treatment inflicted on the interned at Orenburg, where typhus and starvation depleted their ranks by the hundreds."

Serbia, besides "rough treatment, plundering and insufficient food, compulsory naturalization was enforced, prisoners of war were robbed, badly fed and forced to do work for military purposes."

Twenty-seven cases of violations by Russia of the laws of warfare and eighteen instances in which Serbia and Montenegro are accused of various atrocities are given in detailed affidavits selected from many more made by soldiers, officers and civilian officials. These include, in Russia, not only the use of fuming bullets, firing on the Red Cross flag and ambulances, but organized looting and killing of civilians and numerous authenticated cases of rape."

Cases are recorded of looting and killing directed especially against Jewish civilians who also were forced under the lash to work in the trenches during their holidays. Atrocities committed by the Cossacks, assassinations and robberies and wanton destruction, all supported by concrete instances, were verified, it is claimed, after the Austrians reoccupied the invaded territories.

Schooner John Brantford, light, for a lower river landing to load back to this city; schooner Lewis Worrell, light, for Mattox creek to load cord wood to return; power boat Neddie, from Alexandria for Potomac creek with merchandise; steamer Southland, for Old Point and Norfolk; U. S. S. Talbot, for Indian Head with passengers; sloop Flora Elsie, light, for the lower river to load back to this city; motor boat Ruth K. for Port Potomac; sloop Flora Elsie, light, for the lower river to load back to this city; schooner Mary Lee, at Baltimore, will load for a Chesapeake bay point; schooner Charles L. Rohde is due with lumber from Newbern, N. C.; schooner Silver Star is due from a Virginia shore with lumber or cord wood; schooner Clara Howeth is at a Potomac point after cord wood or railroad ties for the market here, and sloop Nellie Ambler, at Alexandria, will return to a lower river point to load for this city or Baltimore.

MAIL CLERK HAS SMALLPOX.

Offices of Railway Mail Service Thoroughly Fumigated.

Earl L. Dodson of Connelville, Va., a substitute mail clerk on the Southern railway, rooming at the Railroad Y. M. C. A., was taken from his room Wednesday by order of the District health officers, who directed his removal to the District Smallpox Hospital. He was found to be suffering from smallpox in a mild form.

The young man, who is twenty-four years old, registered Wednesday at the office of the superintendent of the railway mail service, complaining of a fever and a sore throat. He had been in the office for about a week, and was in charge of the railway mail service in the District of Columbia.

More Horses for European War.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 16.—The shipment of war horses through Pittsburgh was resumed last night, when several trains were halted here in order to load the animals.

LABORER FROM AMERICA SHOT FOR HIGH TREASON.

Frans Berka, Claiming U. S. Citizenship, Executed in Austrian Prison by Shooting.

LONDON, July 16, 4:01 a.m.—Frans Berka, a laborer who claimed American citizenship, was shot for high treason at Mairbach-Ostrau, in Austrian Silesia, June 14, according to the Daily Chronicle, which says it gets its information from a copy of the official journal of the province of Silesia.

Berka, who was forty-six years of age, says the Daily Chronicle, was tried before the military court charged with using two traitorous expressions in an inn at Gross Helendorf. The expressions were alleged to be calculated to disturb the peace of the neighborhood.

The court sentenced the man to be hanged, but the sentence was changed to shooting and was carried out two hours after its pronouncement.

Renovating House Office Building.

The annual renovation of the House office building has begun, the work being in charge of Charles Macnichel. A force of more than 100 painters and decorators is employed in the work of refurbishing the more than 450 rooms of the big building.

Gude's Home-Grown Flowers Always Cheer Sick Folks.

THOSE friends who are ill at home or in hospital will appreciate a box of Gude's beautiful, fresh-cut, home-grown flowers. Prompt delivery assured. Prices, per box, up from 50c.

Appropriate Floral Tokens.

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Various Forms of Torture.

In Serbia and Montenegro the participation of the civilian population in the fighting, the misuse of the white flag, use of cartridges filled with wire nails and pieces of vitriol of copper, torture of prisoners, the poisoning of wells with dead bodies and mud, the firing upon the army service corps by women and children, mutilation of bodies and the treatment of prisoners of war.

Under the head of "Violations of the laws of warfare," complaint is made that Russia refused to recognize Austrians described as the Polish and Rumanian legions as belligerents. The Russians are accused of hanging them "wherever they catch them."

The Rumanian legions, not less than the Polish legions," says the book, "comply only with all the requirements of the Hague convention in regard to a volunteer corps, but form a part of the army itself."

Charges are also made